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Could have been worse

Schuylkill River overflow in Manayunk, Center City all that's left of Irene here Hurricane winds leave South Philly, suburbs underwhelmed {page 02}

▶ Erin Swersky and Matthew Kukla yesterday stared down Manayunk's flooded Main Street, where they both live.

News

After the storm, news in pictures

{pages 04-05}

We wish they were besties

Can you imagine if these celebs were best friends forever?

{page 06}

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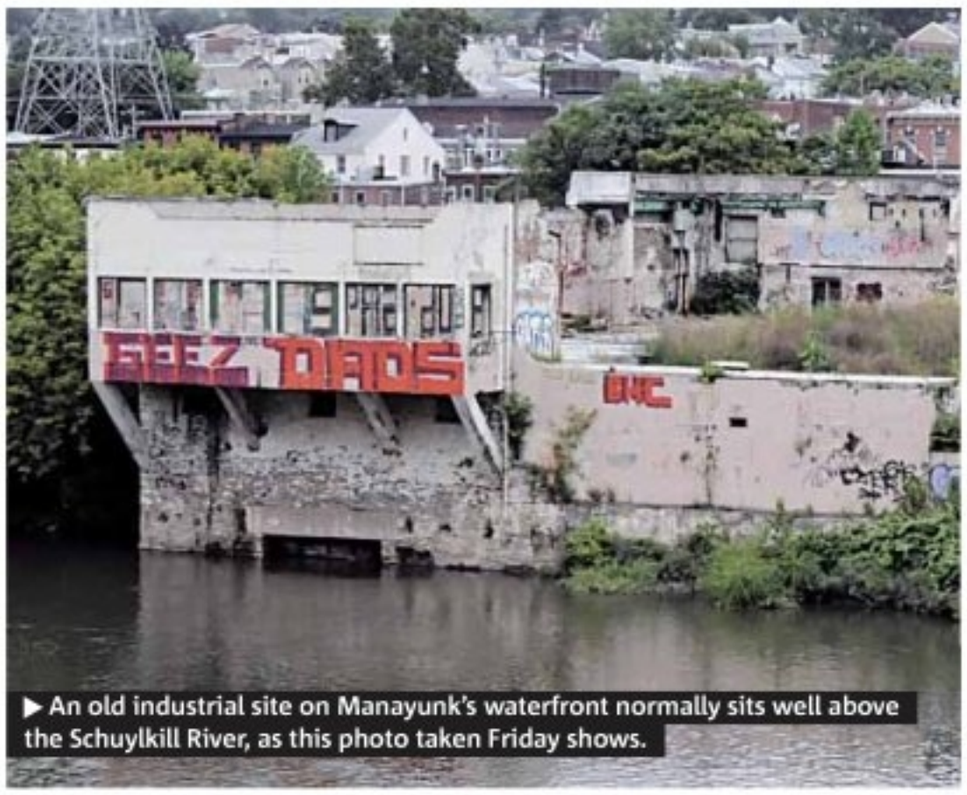

▶ An old industrial site on Manayunk's waterfront normally sits well above the Schuylkill River, as this photo taken Friday shows.

▶ The same site in this photo taken yesterday afternoon shows how high the Schuylkill rose from Irene's six inches of rain.

Transit

Delays on SEPTA this morning

All modes of the transit agency's system, including Regional Rail, are expected to be up and running today. But delays, disruptions are likely, SEPTA said.

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Irene's mixed bag leaves some underwhelmed

Schuylkill River still making its presence felt in places it burst its banks ● But many people left surprised by outcome of once feared hurricane

Hurricane Irene did leave a big wet mark on Philadelphia, submerging Manayunk's Main Street yesterday as well as some areas of Center City along a swollen Schuylkill River.

Mayor Michael Nutter warned that flooded roads would continue to make travel risky in some sections of the city through this morning. SEPTA, meanwhile, also hoped to have its whole system back up and running by today's early rush hour.

But in most neighborhoods farther from the river, a sense of relief seemed more often the reaction in the aftermath of a storm thought early on to be potentially historic in the damage it could bring.

▶ Schuylkill Trail submerged.

"I was disappointed," Pennsport resident Mark Moore said yesterday. "It was all hyped up. I expected my roof to blow off."

Downed tree branches could be seen in some neighborhood parks, but no locals in some parts of South Philadelphia reported power outages or flooding.

"I stayed up until four in the morning watching the news for no reason," said massage therapist Krista Sorensen. "Saying this was a hurricane is ridiculous. It was really just a rainstorm."

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Apple tree no more

FOX CHASE. The apple tree was having a good year. Maybe its best year. Thirty years after my parents planted it in their Northeast backyard — too close to their house, too close to the neighbors' houses, just right if you're hiding from someone in the kitchen — it was finally producing the kind of apples you might consider eating.

And so yesterday morning, as it lay against their bathroom window, it seemed important to use its last apples. These weren't perfect apples, and these weren't apples without the occasional fuzzy worm or missing nibble, but these were better apples than it had ever offered up before.

Here's the problem with downed apple trees: They make a lot of apples. And pies only need about five apples. ● MONICA WEYMOUTH

Spotty power outages

EAST OAK LANE. The wrath of Irene bypassed this part of the city with the exception of a few brief power outages overnight Saturday and some uprooted trees in residential neighborhoods.

The deluge of rain caused the Tacony Creek to swell, rising to the level of a pedestrian bridge near Adams Avenue early Sunday. Much of the water receded by the afternoon, but the creek remained covered with debris and downed branches.

The torrential downpour, while persistent, did not seem to cause much damage to power lines or homes. Tree removal crews did have to lift away a few trees that were knocked down by the gusty winds, but it was better than expected given the forecast. SEPTA resumed by the afternoon. ● SOLOMON D. LEACH

Manhunt for soldier ended

▶ Egland

BUCKS COUNTY. An Army soldier from Virginia wanted for allegedly murdering three people in that state this weekend before driving to a home near New Hope and killing a woman in her own living room killed himself, reports said.

Leonard John Egland, 37, stationed at Fort Lee, Va., was found last evening in Warwick. He allegedly shot his estranged wife and two others earlier this weekend. He allegedly shot his former mother-in-law to death in Buckingham Township on Saturday while his 9-year-old daughter waited in the car, Bucks County authorities said.

His body was found a short distance from the location of the shootout with police the night before. ● METRO/BXM

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News in pictures

▶ Large waves pound the pier in Ocean City, Md.

▶ As Weather Channel meteorologist Eric Fisher, broadcasting live in Virginia Beach, said he was "pretty much speechless" about how many people were out in the hurricane, one man came completely out.

Downgraded Irene's trail of damage

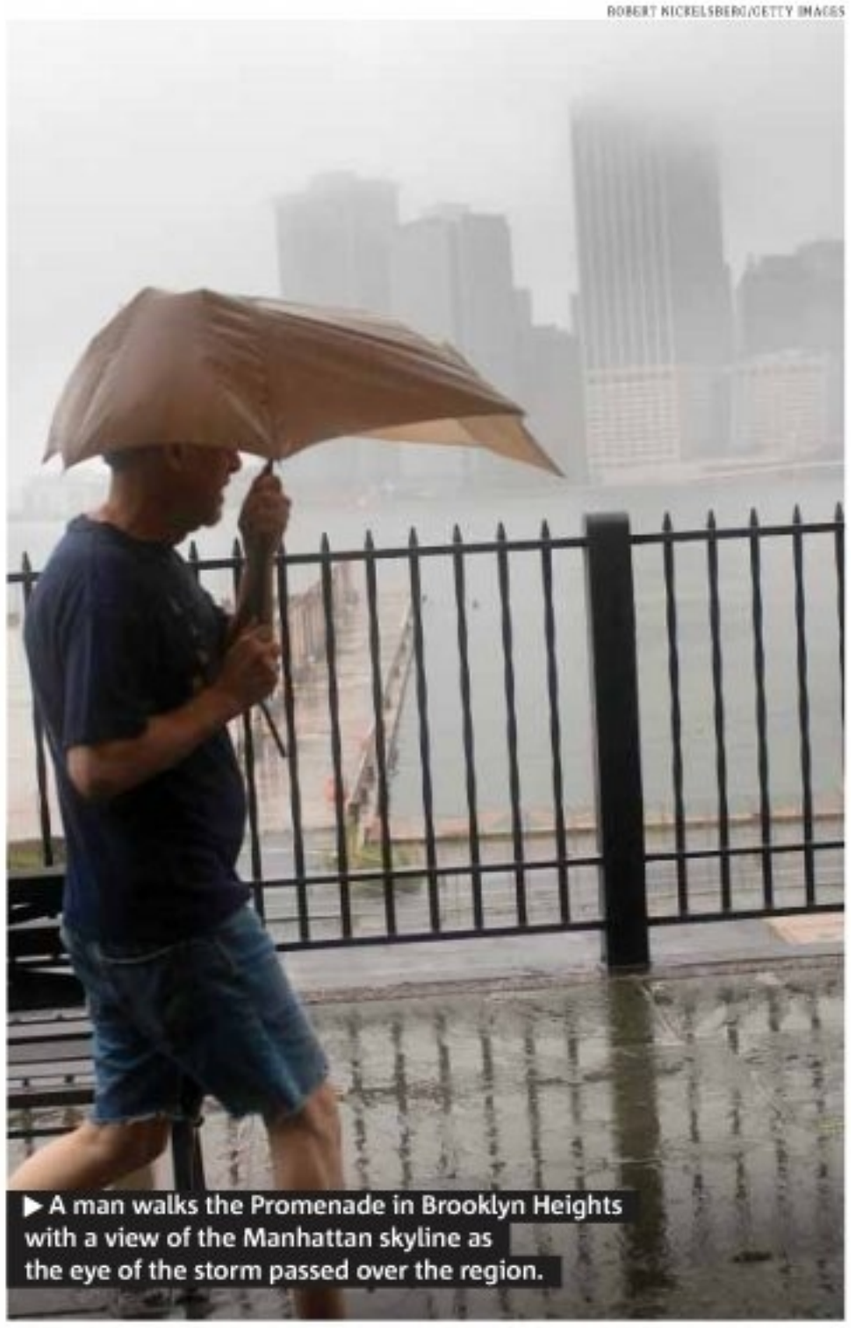
Hurricane Irene surged through New York City yesterday, flooding waterfronts and low-lying areas, but America's most populous city avoided the mass devastation some had feared.

Irene was downgraded to a tropical storm as it moved up the coast, dropping heavy rain on Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

On its march over the weekend, the storm left at least 12 dead, as many as 3.6 million customers without electricity, widespread flooding and damage to coastal towns in several states. REUTERS

EMMANUEL DUNAND/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

ROBERT NICKELSBERG/GETTY IMAGES



▶ A man walks the Promenade in Brooklyn Heights with a view of the Manhattan skyline as the eye of the storm passed over the region.

BRENDAN HOFFMAN/GETTY IMAGES.

▶ A palm frond blows along the beach as the sun begins to rise over the Atlantic Ocean a day after facing Hurricane Irene in Virginia Beach, Va. The hurricane made landfall in North Carolina and Virginia early Saturday morning.

MARK WILSON/GETTY IMAGES

▶ A taxi sits in floodwater on Coney Island after Irene hit New York.

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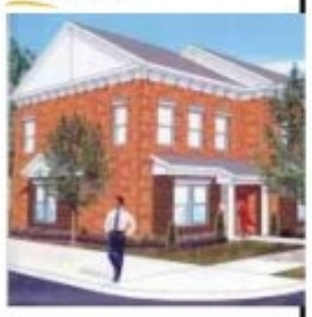

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Devour the full list of restaurants at CenterCityPhila.org

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2

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

The feed ...

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Andy Milonakis is getting all sci-fi on his mom, Fabolous needs to cut out the cray-cray, Russell Simmons wants to broker peace, LL Cool J gets philosophical and Bill Cosby is strangely optimistic about the future. Which newspaper is he reading??

@Andy Milonakis
My mom talks a lot, i just called her mom-makin skytalker

@Fabolous
I'm about to unfollow some people ... But not on twitter, from my life.

@RussellSimmons
Lil Wayne and Jay are genius lyricists. Bury da beef

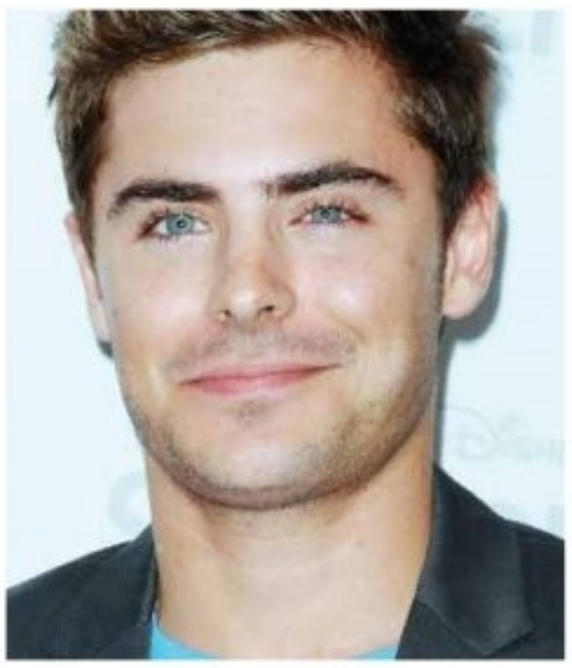
@Bill Cosby
This country, really and truly, has gone through a magnificent metamorphosis.

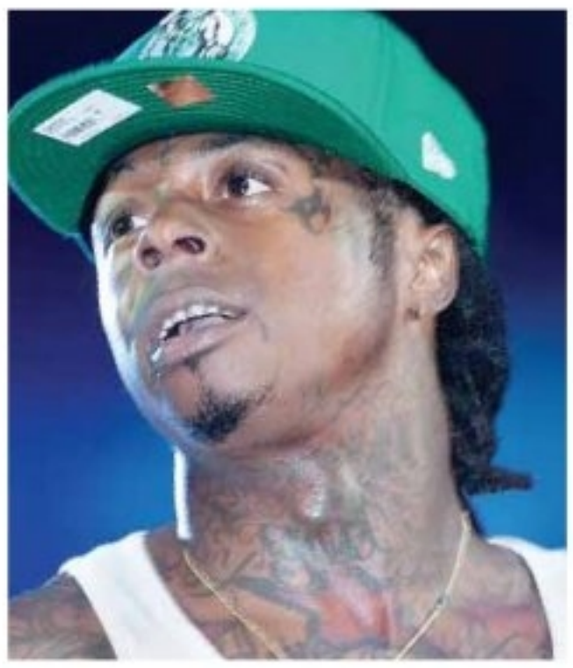
@LL Cool J
"Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself." — St. Francis de Sales

Andy Milonakis

What if these celebs were BFF?

Hollywood is already filled with weird best friends. You don't think so? What about **Gwyneth Paltrow** and **Madonna**, **Katie Holmes** and **Victoria Beckham**, **Rihanna** and **Katy Perry**, **Kanye West** and **Jared Leto**? But hey, if you're super rich and can't have normal friends for fear they will sell all of your information to Us Weekly for a nice payday, I can see how you will cling to whomever. Here are a few more couplings we'd like to see happen:





Zac Efron and Lil Wayne
What better way for Efron to show the world that, yes, he can tap dance, but also that he has mean street cred?

Helena Bonham Carter and Rhianna:
If you think about it, their closets are probably similarly madcap?

Ricky Gervais and Justin Bieber:
Because someone needs to show Bieber what it's like to have a sense of humor.

Tyra Banks and Kristen Stewart:
If anyone is going to teach Stewart how to stand up straight and smize, it's Banks.

John Malkovich and Anne Hathaway:
Hathaway needs another thespian to whip the annoying out of her otherwise formidable performance skills. Calling John Malkovich!

Drew Barrymore and Lindsay Lohan:
Barrymore can show Lohan it's possible to overcome addiction while still retaining a sense of fun and a career. Wouldn't that be nice?

Jake Gyllenhaal and James Franco:
Because. Wow. Imagine the gay rumors on that one.

Jeff Bridges and Taylor Momsen:
Maybe all Momsen needs to do to chill with this insane angst she's sporting is to drink a few domestics with the Dude in some California dive bar? I know it'd make me feel better about my daddy issues.

Sarah Jessica Parker and Dee Snyder:
Because, when you think about it, they really might be long-lost twins.

Remember this?

Memorable outfits of past VMAs:

In honor of Sunday night's VMA awards, here is Metro's roundup of the worst outfits of VMAs past:

1: Gwen Stefani in 1998
2: Destiny's Child in 2001
3: Paris Hilton in 2002
4: Lenny Kravitz in 2004
5: Jessica Simpson in 2005

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DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

1

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A few celeb shots to get you through this hurricane aftermath

1: Wendy Williams attended the Say It Like You Mean It tour at Woodfield Mall on Wednesday in Schaumburg, Ill.

2: Tyra Banks visited the Cirque Du Soleil 'Zarkana' at Radio City Music Hall on Wednesday in New York City.

3: Co-CEO and President of AEG Live/Concerts West John Meglen looked on as recording artist (and new grandfather!) Rod Stewart kicks a soccer ball to the crowd as he is introduced at Caesars Palace to launch his two-year residency "Rod Stewart: The Hits" on Wednesday in Las Vegas.

4: Brooke Geahan and Courtney Love took a cig break at the BookTract iPad App Launch at Yotel Hotel on Wednesday in New York City.

5: Ashton Kutcher signed autographs outside of the "Late Show with David Letterman" at the Ed Sullivan Theater on Wednesday in New York City.

1: DANIEL BOCZARSKI/GETTY IMAGES
2: CINDY ORD/GETTY IMAGES
3: ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES
4: MARC STAMAS/GETTY IMAGES
5: DONNA WARD/GETTY IMAGES

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What up, Holmes?

Joey Potter has grown up. The 31-year-old woman who became famous for that character on "Dawson's Creek" so many years ago, is now poised and unflappable as she sits in New York's Waldorf Astoria, sweetly answering questions about her latest film, "Don't Be Afraid of the Dark."

Produced by the auteur of gore, Guillermo del Toro, "Dark" centers around a young girl named Sally (Bailee Madison) who joins her father (Guy Pearce) and his new girlfriend (Holmes) to live at an old restored mansion, which, Sally learns, harbors some creepy ancient creatures who are dying for some company.

"They're like cockroaches but worse because they're slimy, so it's like half-maggot, half cockroach," Holmes says of the predatory homunculi.

▶ Holmes listens carefully for the homunculi in "Don't Be Afraid of the Dark."

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Where the actress, who has been married to fellow actor Tom Cruise for five years this November, is heavy on charm — she even thanked us for coming out in the rain to support the film — she's light on candor. Holmes is one to, as we say in the business, "stick to the script."

"It was a real thrill to work with Guillermo," she says when asked how doing this movie compared with the horror movies she did earlier in her career. "I loved the characters and the family dynamics that really bring the audience in. Then, all of a sudden something scary happens and you realize you're on this thrill ride."

But how about those films like "I Know What You Did Last Summer"? She continues:

"I started my career with 'The Ice Storm' — that was a character-driven slice-of-life drama and horror. I feel fortunate. I've worked with a lot of really good actors and filmmakers, so it was nice to have that opportunity again in this picture."

HEIDI PATALANO
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TV watch list

MTV's new Monday night lineup AMBER RAY

'RIDICULOUSNESS'

REALITY. MTV launches a brand new Monday night lineup on the back of their latest franchise prankster/pro skater, Rob Drydek. In "Ridiculousness" (10 p.m.), the "Rob & Big" star takes the role of snarkmaster, hosting an Internet clip show a la "Tosh.0" that revels in the rampant stupidity captured in videos posted to the web.

'DEATH VALLEY'

COMEDY. At 10:30 p.m., horror-comedy "Death Valley" introduces the "Undead Task Force," a new division of the LAPD created to take down the vampires, werewolves and zombies that freely roam California. This is what our "Twilight" obsession has led to, people!

'CUFF'D'

REALITY. "Cuff'd" takes a serious look at law enforcement. This reality series, premiering at 11 p.m., documents the interaction between young perpetrators and the arresting officers, where frank and sometimes funny conversations shed light on the choices that led to that moment. **Series premieres, beginning at 10 p.m., MTV**

'Another Girl,' and another workday

Juliana Hatfield on why she doesn't take too much time off Yes, she considers one day off too much time

After one day and one night, Juliana Hatfield is done with vacation. Apparently, the one day off is Hatfield's idea of a summer holiday.

"I went to Martha's Vineyard recently. I was sort of planning on being there for three days," says the Boston-based alt-pop singer-songwriter. "But I had to come home after 24 hours, because I couldn't handle any more than 24 hours of relaxation. But I really, really enjoyed the 24 hours of relaxation. I just didn't want any more."

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Plenty of albums (and rest)

Even Hatfield admits that doing nothing can sometimes be quite an attractive way to spend your time, especially for someone who has been hard at it as a professional musician for, astoundingly, 25 years. "I do allow myself plenty of rest. I always say that I work hard and I rest hard. I can be really lazy and I look back on all the albums I've made and say, 'Well, I deserve a day of doing nothing. I'm going to do nothing today and enjoy it.'"

Hatfield, whose candid memoir "When I Grow Up" was published in 2008, admits that instead of allowing stress to control her as it did when she was younger, she now uses it as fuel. She celebrates the release of her new album, "There's Always Another Girl" next week.

"I put a lot of pressure on myself, and I definitely have anxiety about getting stuff done, about getting songs written," she says. "I guess I kind of thrive on anxiety, I need it. If I'm not constantly producing work then I'll seize up and become a log on my couch, doing nothing. Inertia is a powerful force, and I can get sucked into black holes of doing nothing for a long time. I try not to let that happen."

LINDA LABAN
linda.laban@metro.us

▶ Hatfield says she thrives on anxiety.

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Why is Hollywood so unreal?

Many everyday things that happen in our day-to-day lives don't show up in shows or movies Why not? What it means to include the mundane

You're watching a movie in which two characters are in the midst of an intense conversation about a giant asteroid that is on a direct path to the Pentagon when all of a sudden one of them says, "Hold that thought — gotta pee!" and darts off screen.

Doesn't happen much, does it? As a matter of fact, unless it's directly related to the advancement of the plot, we never see these real-world moments happen on screen. Are there consequences to this exclusion? Grae Drake, movie critic at movies.com thinks so.

"The reason I'm most indignant about this topic is that movies are single-handedly reinforcing why it's cooler to be a movie star than it is to be a real person," she says. "Because all of these menial tasks that make up a life are completely edited out of a representation of life, therefore making us think that being normal is totally lame."

That's just the point, argues Dr. Tonia M. Edwards, film and media professor at Georgia State University.

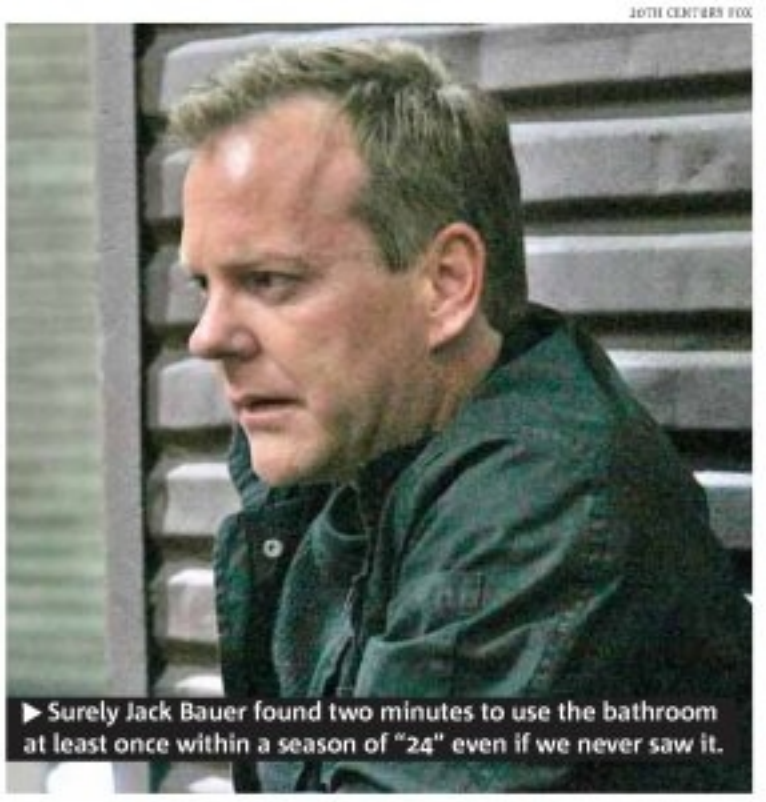
"Those mundane moments are often removed because Hollywood encourages escape from everyday life. By removing the often tedious aspects from the story being told, it allows the viewer to distance themselves from a life in which they spend large portions of their days doing relatively unexciting things," she says, but adds that a certain brand of film far removed from Hollywood chooses to emphasize the boring side of life in order to make an artistic statement.

Never seen

Things we never see on-screen unless it's significant to a plot:

- Saying goodbye when hanging up the phone
- Sneezing or coughing
- Grocery shopping
- Replacing a light bulb
- General clumsiness

20TH CENTURY FOX



▶ Surely Jack Bauer found two minutes to use the bathroom at least once within a season of "24" even if we never saw it.

"European art cinema, for example, often chooses to include moments and various elements simply because they reinforce the realistic qualities of a story. Typically, they do this in order to force people to face real life issues."

Given that "art cinema" doesn't often make it to the multiplex, it's a fair guess most people aren't looking for reality. Professor of film studies at Seton Hall, Christopher Sharrett, explains why.

"Today's movies emphasize spectacle and special effects. Writing takes a back seat, and with it real human concerns," he says. "Observing real human concerns are not, sad to say, what the audience has been trained to want, with a few exceptions."

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Tom Hill
CGA STAFF WRITER

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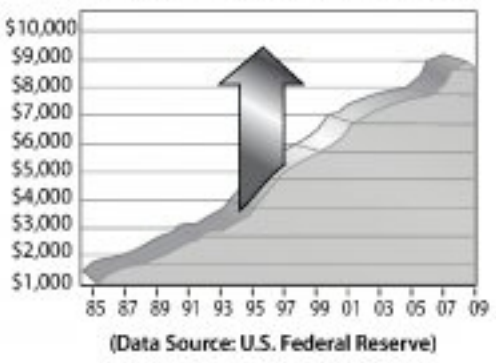

(Data Source: U.S. Federal Reserve)

Every three minutes another person falls behind on credit card debt. It's no wonder, since every major credit card company has nearly doubled the minimum monthly payment on consumers' bills. Federal Regulators forced the change because of their concern about the growing mountain of consumer debt, which stands at $2.17 trillion. Many consumers can only pay the minimum payment, which can take up to 30 years to pay off. Now, relief is in sight for millions of Americans.

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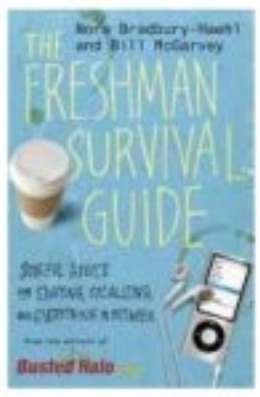
myeducation

What the textbooks won't teach you

'The Freshman Survival Guide' on grades, roommates and God What all new students will need to know



For their book "The Freshman Survival Guide," authors Nora Bradbury-Haehl and Bill McGarvey of BustedHalo.com interviewed professors, administrators, campus ministers and students alike in order to give incoming freshmen a primer on practicalities they'll need to know their first year of college — and also to help them tackle the bigger questions. We went to McGarvey with some questions of our own.

What's the biggest mistake freshmen make when they start college?
They assume that everybody is going to be trustworthy, and a few weeks or months into the semester, you might realize that person you befriended can be not really worthy of your trust. You spend 18 years getting to this point and you have friendships and networks with people that know you and who you are: Don't just chuck them out the window because you're in college and everything is exciting and new.

Why did you choose to include matters of faith in your book? A lot of college guidebooks don't.
That's kind of the reason why. There's a lot of books out there about getting into school and making yourself a success in college, but there was nothing in there that dealt with the whole student. These books almost seem to assume that these students were a collection of brain cells and hormones. College kids are less religious but they're definitely getting more spiritual.

What should every freshman know upon starting college?
You're spending good money to get an education and there are enormous resources at your fingertips. You're gonna run into challenges, but there are places to turn and people that are there to help you.

MEREDITH ENGEL
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Online Q&A

Can you expand on the book's web component?

I came from a web background and I wanted to make sure that our book reflected the way younger college students read and interact with the media now. Throughout the book there are chapters where you can go online and get special information or contribute, but there's also this thing called the Interactive RA [where] resident assistants from around the country volunteer to take questions.

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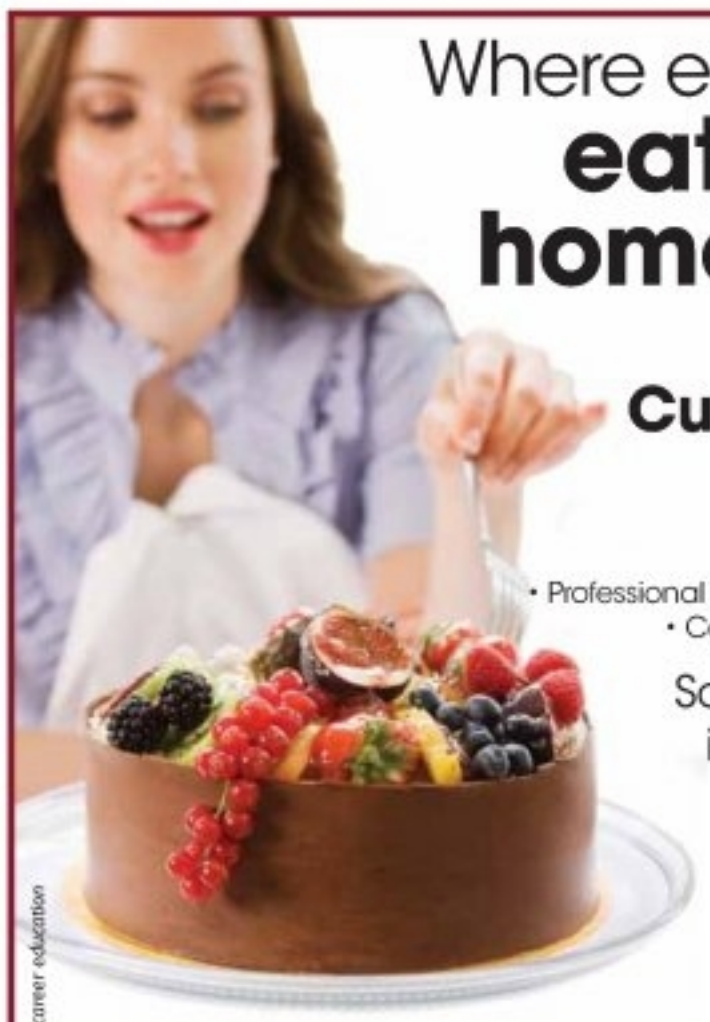

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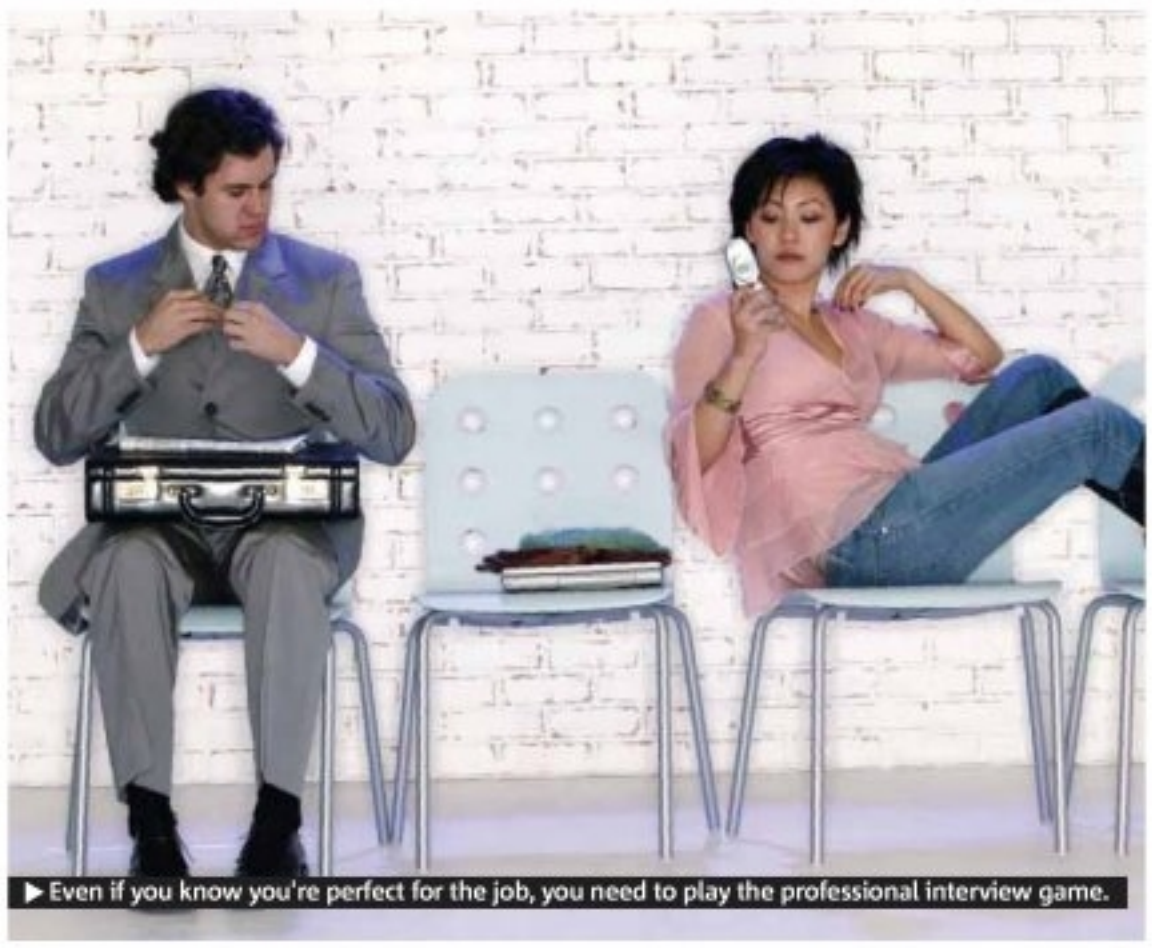
myjobs

3 Ways to not land the job

It'll take more than spell-checking your résumé and giving a nice firm handshake Tony Lee, publisher of CareerCast.com, on the biggest red flags for recruiters



▶ Even if you know you're perfect for the job, you need to play the professional interview game.

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1. Being too casual

Sometimes, being your lovable, charming self isn't the best approach. "One of the biggest problems is people think of themselves as being pretty smart, so they think they can wing it — they'll impress companies and interviewers and recruiters just by being themselves," says Lee. "But you really need to be ready to show why you're the best candidate and are ready for the job. Make sure you're not too casual in your approach."

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2. Submitting a general application

Even if the positions you're applying for are similar, take the time to personalize each cover letter and résumé — it'll make you stand out from the majority of applicants who don't. "One of the biggest complaints we hear from employers is that candidates aren't very savvy about applying for jobs," says Lee. "They fire off the same application for every job without tailoring it for that position, and without carefully looking for an opportunity that you'd be successful at."

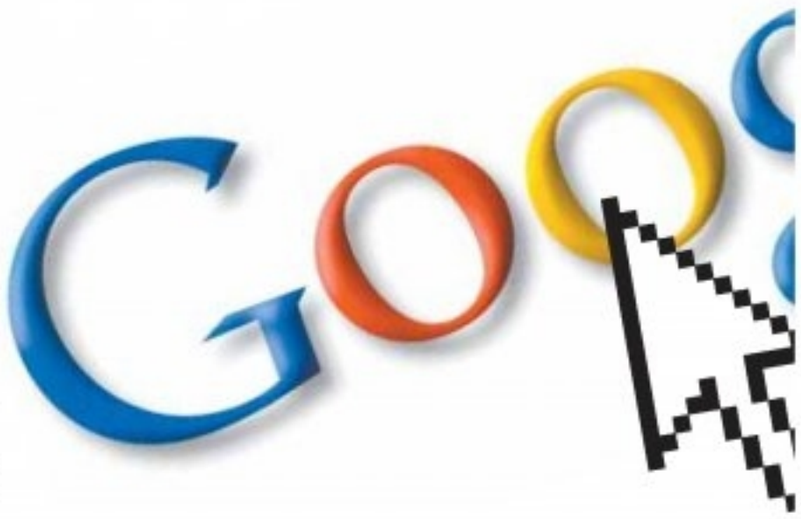
3. Not explaining employment gaps

If you haven't been working, you're far from alone. But it's important to account for that time to prospective employers. "They're afraid that if you've been out of work for a couple years than you've fallen into bad habits. What you have to show is that you've been active," says Lee. "If you can show that in the last year you helped manage three events at your children's schools that helped raise over $20,000, it shows that you've been active."

Do some cleaning up on Google

You can clean up your Facebook profile, but if your Google search results aren't flattering, that's a little more difficult to work around. One easy diversion that Lee suggests is to invite employers to visit your polished LinkedIn or Google+ profile so they don't have to search.

On the slightly more sneaky side, if "Anthony Lee" turned up questionable search results, he suggests applying as the still correct and honest "Tony Lee."



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LEVEL: VERY HARD

9	4	1		2	7			
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			4	2		1		7
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4					5	2		

Horoscope

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** If you're planning a group endeavor, get on the horn and do something about bringing those you need together. People won't jump on your bandwagon unless they're asked.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Don't be surprised if it seems like everybody's attention is focused on you. Because of the genuine concern you show for them, people can't help being drawn to you.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** What makes you such a standout among your peers is your philosophical outlook, which helps you to not only acquire knowledge but also to easily disseminate it as needed.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Even some of your opponents will be in awe of the way you handle challenging developments that suddenly arise. While others are scurrying for cover, you'll be settling things.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Although you tend to handle things single-handedly, you might establish a temporary partnership for mutual reasons. Once your purposes are accomplished, you'll go your own way.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** There won't be anything selfish about your current outlook. In fact, your primary concern will be that others fare as well as you. You'll even offer whatever help you can.

♓ Pisces Feb. **20-March 20.** Dan Cupid is likely to be either looking to revitalize an old romance for you or casing the scene for a new target at which he can aim. In either case, things look good.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Getting off to a good start early in the week will help make the work you need to accomplish much easier to finish within the next few days. You'll be ahead of schedule.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Someone who can make your heart beat faster might display much more than a platonic interest in you. It'll be up to you to let him or her know it is welcomed.

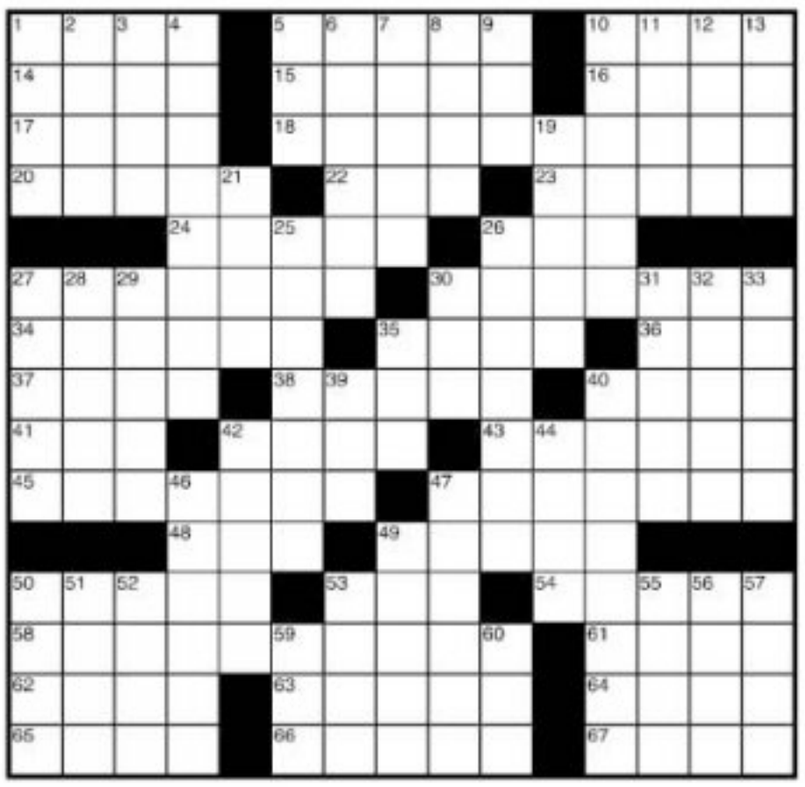
♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Because you've been extra nice to a number of pals lately, they might want to do something special for you, each in his or her own way.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** It's quite possible that even those friends who are closest to you aren't aware of your wants and desires. Thus, you can't expect any help from them unless you verbalize your desires.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Some of your greatest benefits this week are likely to come from people you don't even know. They won't be purposely doing things on your behalf; it'll just turn out that way.

Across
1 Comet envelope
5 Popped up
10 Flair
14 With, to Maurice
15 Queenly
16 Sugar lump
17 Dangerously impulsive
18 Thinking ahead
20 S'il vous --
22 Decent grade
23 Exudes moisture
24 Boxing jabs
26 Dessert choice
27 Padded envelopes
30 Stair part
34 Parthenon goddess
35 Piece of chicken
36 Female antelope
37 Country addrs.
38 Bond statistic
40 Trumpet or bugle
41 Aunt, in Madrid
42 Board-game pair
43 Threat ender (2 wds.)
45 Underfed
47 Folds
48 Implore
49 Bleated
50 Ring-shaped island
53 Hr. fraction
54 Artificial duck
58 The very depths (2 wds.)
61 Venetian magistrate
62 Border st.
63 Bicker
64 Hunch
65 Took the trolley
66 Levels off
67 -- -do-well

Down
1 Goldfish
2 Face shape
3 Oater backdrop
4 Hector's slayer
5 Pound sound
6 Does a double take
7 Grimm heavies
8 Business encl.
9 New Haven student
10 Reverberated
11 Skater's jump
12 Busy as -- --
13 Beatty et al.
19 On the way out
21 Adult-to-be
25 Raveling
26 Curious maiden
27 Shopping areas
28 Room under a roof
29 "-- -- You Knocking"
30 Mae West role
31 Megastars, to fans
32 Leif's language
33 Chromosome parts
35 Very little
39 Steely, as nerves
40 Went to bed (2 wds.)
42 Resided
44 Marsh grass
46 On fire
47 Yucatan resort
49 Spree
50 Barely open
51 Kahuna's spud
52 Roman poet
53 Vanna's boss
55 Cipher
56 Pointed arch
57 Wine label datum
59 -- Dawn Chong
60 Bucks and toms



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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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9			7	5				
	7				1	9		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to weekend's crossword

F	E	M	E	■	C	O	A	C	H	■	C	H	A	P
A	M	E	S	■	H	E	L	L	O	■	R	O	M	E
T	I	L	T	■	U	R	B	A	N	■	U	P	O	N
A	R	D	E	N	T	■	S	W	I	M	M	E	R	S
■	■	■	E	O	N	S	■	S	N	A	P	■	■	■
G	R	O	M	M	E	T	■	■	G	L	E	A	M	S
H	O	D	■	S	Y	R	U	P	■	A	T	T	I	C
A	S	O	■	■	S	O	F	A	R	■	■	A	L	E
N	E	R	D	S	■	M	O	N	E	T	■	R	A	N
A	S	S	A	I	L	■	■	I	M	A	G	I	N	E
■	■	I	D	E	S	■	C	A	R	L	■	■	■	■
C	A	T	S	E	Y	E	S	■	P	O	U	R	E	D
A	L	A	I	■	D	R	O	O	P	■	M	O	D	E
F	O	I	E	■	E	T	U	D	E	■	L	U	I	S
E	E	L	S	■	N	A	K	E	D	■	Y	E	T	I

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Eagles' final competitions starting to really heat up

Kelce, Jackson still battling it out for starting center position But Page might have locked up safety spot

The two biggest battles raging at Eagles camp involve a rookie and a veteran. After three preseason games, they are still undecided.

Rookie Jason Kelce got the start at center Thursday night. It was decided that he might be a better fit for new offensive line guru Howard Mudd's system than incumbent starter Jamaal Jackson. Kelce played the entire first half to mixed reviews.

A miscommunication between him and right guard Danny Watkins led to a 14-yard sack on Michael Vick early in the first quarter. Vick fumbled the ball and the Browns recovered at the Eagles' 18-yard line.

"It is what it is. I'm just going in there and competing day in and day out."
NATE ALLEN, SAFETY

"Whenever you see your quarterback fall like that, regardless of whose fault it is, it's never a good feeling," Kelce said. "It's like the bottom of your stomach just falls out. We got to correct it. It won't happen again, let's put it that way."

Kelce, who was also flagged for a 10-yard offensive holding penalty, seemed to get into the flow as the first half progressed. He provided the lead block on Ronnie Brown's 13-yard touchdown run.

Meanwhile, Jarrad Page might have solidified his role as the team's starting free safety. He got turned around once in coverage, but came right back and made a nice stop on Peyton Hillis. Page didn't do anything negative, according to coach Andy Reid.

"I think I played well," Page said. "Of course, I'm very critical of myself, so I know there was definitely things I could have done better."

His competition, last year's starter Nate Allen, played the third and fourth quarters. Allen has been dealing with knee tendonitis after undergoing reconstructive surgery eight months ago. Allen said he intends to play though the pain and keep fighting for that starting spot.

MIKE GREGER
sports@metro.us

3
Interceptions by Nate Allen last year — his rookie season. It was tied for third on the team behind Asante Samuel and Dimitri Patterson.

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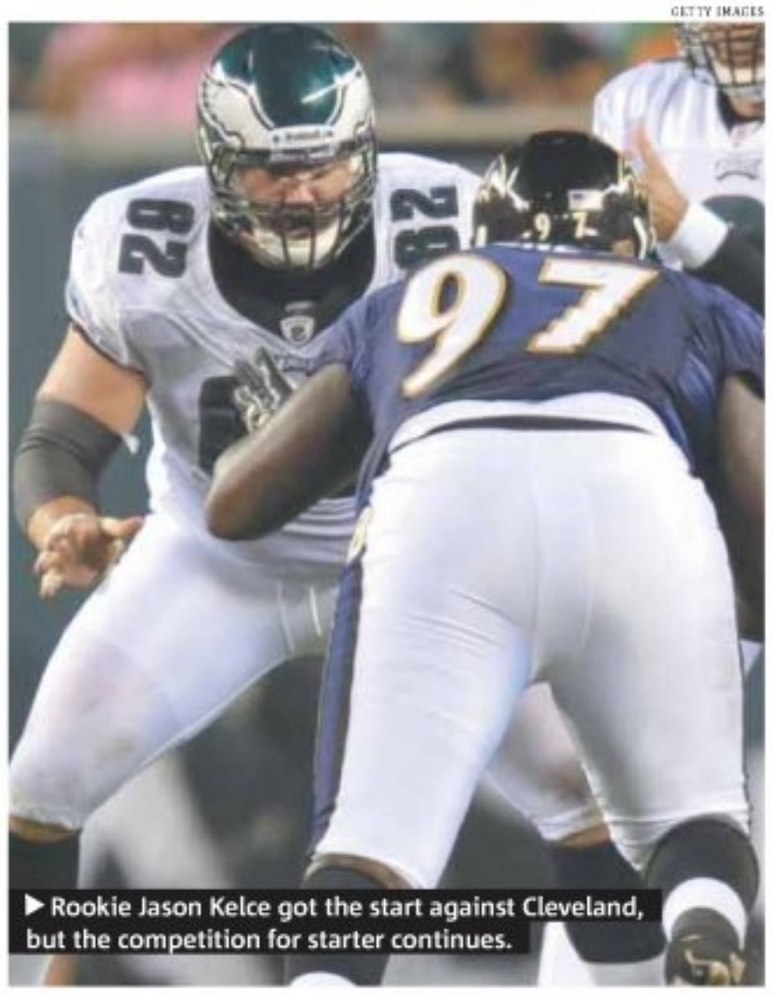

▶ Rookie Jason Kelce got the start against Cleveland, but the competition for starter continues.

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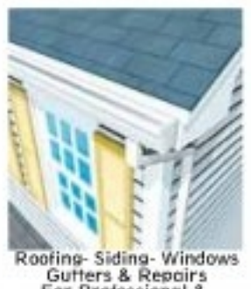

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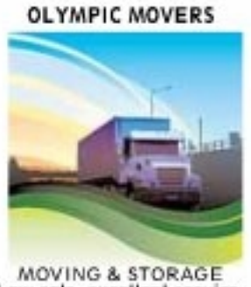

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motoring

GM plugs in to LG for electric cars

Two companies combine effort to do more than they could alone ◗ Experts: Joint approach is way of future ◗ Electric vehicles gaining steam in market

General Motors Co. and LG Corp. have struck a deal to develop electric cars together, a first-of-its-kind alliance between the top U.S. automaker and a leading Korean conglomerate that represents a major bet on battery technology.

LG Corp.'s LG Chem Ltd. currently supplies the lithium-ion batteries that power GM's Chevrolet Volt and Opel Ampera plug-in hybrids which debuted in late 2010.

Under the agreement signed on Wednesday by GM Chief Executive Daniel Akerson and LG President Juno Cho, the two companies said they would design a range of electric vehicles that would be sold in markets around the world.

GM and LG last year collaborated to build a demonstration fleet of Chevy Cruze small cars that were used at the G20 economic summit in Seoul.

Dozens of GM and LG engineers have already begun work together in the United States, GM spokesman Kevin Kelly said.

Over time, GM engineers will also be dispatched to work at LG facilities in South Korea, he said.

GM, which was saved by a U.S. government bailout in 2009, faces stiffer U.S. fuel economy regulations that double current standards to about 55 miles per gallon by 2025.

GM said the partnership would allow it to fast-track the development of more electric vehicles than it could develop on its own.

The announcement of the tie-up comes just three days after Ford Motor Co. and Toyota Motor Co. said they would collaborate to develop hybrid trucks and SUVs.

"We're going to see relationships like this develop. The auto industry is changing and the manufacturers need to change with the changing technology," said Dennis Virag, president of the Automotive Consulting Group in Ann Arbor, Mich.

REUTERS

Pushing electric

Under Akerson, GM has been pushing to expand its lineup of electric vehicles on the view that the high-profile launch of the rechargeable Volt has given it a lead in a key area of technology expected to be central to gains in fuel economy.

Earlier this month, GM confirmed it was developing a plug-in hybrid for its luxury Cadillac brand.

Quoted

"Electric vehicles are going to have to play a role in the really draconian cuts that have to made in terms of fuel consumption."

DENNIS VIRAG, PRESIDENT OF THE AUTOMOTIVE CONSULTING GROUP IN ANN ARBOR, MICH.

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